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Society Favors Four-Year Plan

Foundation Day Drive Approaches \$22,000.00

With approximately ten churches still to report, the Foundation Day drive already has passed the \$21,000.00 mark. It is almost certain that the final tally will reveal \$22,000.00. This represents a gain of \$2500.00 over last year. A study of the results in the cooperating churches gives ground for encouragement. A few churches which had not participated substantially in previous years showed remarkable gain. For example, one congregation increased from about \$300.00 to \$900.00; another from \$300.00 to \$1100.00. Areas which suffered from drought naturally fell a little behind, but not significantly.

It has been clearly substantiated again that there is a growing interest in and love for Dordt College. Given the opportunity the people respond happily and liberally. The Executive Board of the college is extremely gratified with the excellent spirit of the young people manifested in this project and with the encouragement given it by the various consistories.

Christmas Cantata To Be Given Friday, December 8

The Christmas cantata, "Our Redeemer is Born", will be presented in the First Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Center on Friday evening, December 8, at 8:00. The chorus consists of 125 voices, all Dordt College students. Included are all members of the 50 voice A Capella Choir.

This work was written by and will be directed by Dale Grotenhuis, Instructor of Music.

Solo passages will be sung by Dennis Rynders, Tenor; Virgil Vis, Baritone; and Kathy Buteyn, Soprano. Also included are two numbers which will be accompanied by a brass quartet. Other accompanied members will be a feature duo-pianists, Winerva De Ruyter and Linda Vander Veen. The cantata concludes with Psalm 150 which will be accompanied by brass instruments, and which was used previously at the local Spring Festival in 1960.

An offering will be taken prior to the second section of the program. This final segment of the performance will feature the Dordt College A Capella Choir in six beautiful Christmas anthems.

Dordt Assured of Government Loan

The Reverend Mr. B. J. Haan, president of Dordt College, and Mr. Neal Boersma, a member of the Executive Board of the College and a member of the finance and building committees, visited on Thursday, November 2, the Chicago office of the Housing and Home Finance Agency of the federal government. This agency is the administrator of the College Housing Program.

These College representatives requested a loan of \$325,000 to build a new dormitory and Commons. The dormitory, as planned, will house 75 boys and 75 girls. Some \$60,000 of the total loan will be used to construct the Commons, or dining hall.

At a previous meeting some months ago, reports Mr. Boersma, the committee was informed that the figure of \$325,000 was insufficient, in the mind of the government advisors, to build such a structure. President Haan, however, was confident that the project could be completed for such a sum, and warned the committee that costs must be kept low since both the original loan and the interest must be retired on a self-liquidating basis over a forty year period, and that since this means that the students will, by their room costs, be paying for the building and since these costs must be kept as low as possible, therefore the figure originally projected must not be raised.

Mr. Boersma reported that he and President Haan had 1) established the need for such a building and therefore a need for the loan requested, and had 2) convinced the government agency of Dordt's ability to pay for the building. Therefore building specifications will have to be drawn up, and, when these are approved by this agency, interested building contractors will be invited

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District Well Represented Board Authorized To Make Preparations Thorough Study Required

The general society of Dordt College met in Sioux Center Monday, October 16, to consider proposals for a four year college. The audience was estimated to be between 900 and 950. About 60 people from the Pella area attended. This district is farthest removed from Dordt College.

A very lively discussion took place. Decisions were made by acclamation. All of the Board's proposals were passed by an overwhelming majority.

It was quite evident from the remarks made and the spirit manifested that the constituency of Dordt College strongly desire a four year college as soon as it is possible.

REPORT PRESENTED

The College President, Rev. B. J. Haan, presented a report prepared by the administrative heads in which a complete picture of the requirements to be considered, (financial and academic) and the progress already made were outlined.

It was clearly pointed out that while constitutionally the Board was free to make final decisions on these matters, it believed this issue to be of such magnitude as to call for society approval. Dordt College always has been and hopes to continue to remain a college of the people. Decisions of major importance will not be made without the consent of the constituents.

DECISIONS MADE

The following recommendations from the Board were approved:

- That the society declare itself in favor of the idea of a four year college at Dordt.
- That the society give to the Executive and Central Boards the right to proceed in the direction of a four-year college.
- That the society allow the Boards to initiate the third year of college whenever they

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From The DEAN'S DESK

STUDENT ORIENTATION AND ADVISING

The very act of going to college seems to precipitate difficulties. College freshmen, given new independence and placed in a new environment, face many problems. In a relatively short period of time they are required to make many social, emotional, and academic adjustments. Under these conditions it is quite natural that college freshmen will look for help in solving their problems and in making their adjustments. Agatha Townsend states:

Freshmen do not wish to be coddled. Their requests and suggestions are for more information, given with friendly interest, both before and after they enter college. Their desire is for some relief from the mystery that surrounds adjustment to college, less surprise at academic and social requirements, and more help in their direct attack on the problems of learning and living at college.

Agatha Townsend, College Freshmen Speak Out (New York: Harper, 1956) p. 22

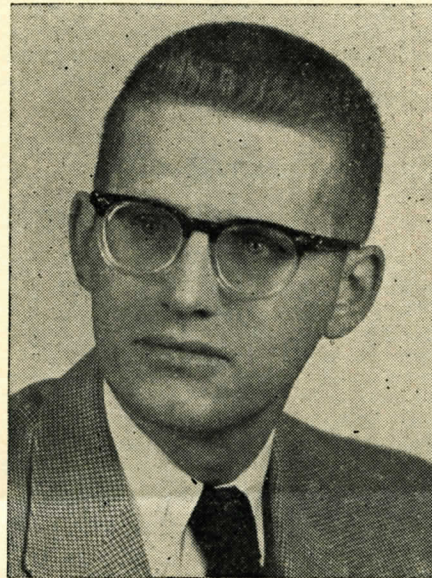
After students have made their initial adjustment to college, they continue to meet many situations in which they desire advice. Many students desire guidance in their selection of majors and minors and in their selection of a sequence of courses to meet their professional goals. Many seek advice in selecting a profession. Many others want help in interpreting the complex academic rules and regulations and the requirements for graduation.

In the past Dordt has not had a formal program of orientation and advising. With small enrollments, informal student-faculty contacts were adequate to answer the questions of most students. The simple orientation-testing period at the beginning of each year, the assistance given by faculty members during registration, and the academic counseling by the Dean met the needs of most students. However, as enrollments increased this system was not adequate. It became impossible to rely upon a completely informal system of advising. The Faculty, through its Student Personnel Committee, faced this problem during the past school year. After careful study a new, systematic, yet informal, program of student orientation and advising was adopted and placed in operation. In this article, and

in a subsequent article, I would like to describe this orientation-advising program.

Student Orientation

The program of student orientation has three facets: pre-admissions counseling, orientation-testing program, and course orientation.



Douglas Ribbens

PRE-ADMISSIONS COUNSELING

In a real sense a person's orientation to Dordt College begins with his contacts with the College while he is still a student in high school. Every effort is made to orient students to the purposes and educational opportunities at Dordt before he arrives on campus.

"Dordt Days," held in each College district, play an important role in pre-admissions counseling. Members of the administration and the Board meet with students, parents, and high school teachers to provide information about Dordt through talks, programs, conferences, and personal contacts.

Students are encouraged to visit the campus to discuss educational plans with the Dean. For those who cannot visit the campus, much information is supplied through correspondence.

Various publications and promotional materials are also used to inform young people about Dordt College. Catalogues are sent. Brochures and printed materials are sent to approximately 1,000 high school seniors each year. The purposes and programs of the College are further explained to parents

and prospective students in articles in the VOICE.

ORIENTATION-TESTING PERIOD

New students must participate in the program of orientation activities held several days in advance of the beginning of classes. These orientation activities are organized to help each student to "start off on the right foot." During this period lectures and discussions in small groups help students to become familiar with the purposes and aims of Dordt College and to understand the rules and regulations which are needed to keep the College running on an even keel. Social activities and group meetings of advisees and advisers provide the opportunity for students and faculty members to get to know each other. The testing program gives the administration the opportunity to obtain valuable information for use in subsequent advising and counseling.

A description of this year's orientation program will show how this is carried out in practice.

Wednesday, September 6. At 9:00 A.M. all freshmen met to take the S.C.A.T. test. All had previously taken the A.C.T. test. The results of both of these tests were available to the advisers in time for registration. At 2:00 P.M., after an official welcome by Rev. Haan, each student was assigned to a "Faculty Adviser." This adviser worked with his advisees during each of the orientation activities and during the registration procedure. This adviser continues to work with the student during his freshman year. During the afternoon each adviser met with his advisees, in informal sessions, to discuss materials contained in the STUDENT HANDBOOK, which was written to provide the information each student needs to know. After the day's activities students and faculty members relaxed at an all school picnic.

Thursday, September 7. Thursday morning was devoted to freshman registration. Each student registered with his adviser by scheduled appointment. Prior to the registration period advisers had all test results, high school records, and other information required to assist the advisee in setting up his first semester schedule. During the registration appointment the student carefully worked out the first semester program with the advice of the faculty adviser. On Thursday afternoon advisers and advisees met in informal sessions to continue the discussion of items contained in the STUDENT HANDBOOK. On Thursday evening films

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From the Dean's Desk . . .

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were shown for the entertainment of students.

During the first week of classes two other orientation activities were scheduled. Each group of advisees was introduced to the library by Mr. Cooper. In this library orientation period library holdings and their location were shown, the cataloging and classification system were explained, library services were listed, and library circulation rules and regulations were outlined. During the first week all new students also met in group sessions with their advisers to discuss study techniques. Advisers lectured on study techniques and habits and led a group discussion on the book *HOW TO STUDY* by Thomason.

COURSE ORIENTATION

Orientation is a continuing process. Many phases of adjustment cannot be accomplished in the brief orientation-testing period. Faculty members realize that each course presents specialized academic problems. After studying this problem the Faculty has agreed that each teacher should provide the following types of assistance in each course:

1. An outline of course purposes and objectives to give students a sense of direction and perspective and to assist them in their class preparation.
2. Instructions, early in the course, on such matters as:
 - a. The study techniques most suitable for the course.
 - b. The requirements for the preparation of reports and projects.
 - c. The best methods of preparing the regular assignments of the course.
 - d. The best methods of preparing for tests in the course.
 - e. The library materials which are available for the course and how they may be best utilized.
3. A willingness to assist students with their problems related to the work of the course.

Since no program of student orientation can provide all of the guidance and advice required by students, Dordt has also begun a system of "Faculty Advising," and it continues its program of advising through the office of the Dean. Both of these phases will be discussed in a future article.

Four Year Planning

On October 16 the Dordt College Society approved the four year college idea, giving the Executive and Central Board the right to initiate the third year of college whenever

they deem it feasible. With this approval the administration, the faculty members, and a number of committees began work to plan the four year program.

On Saturday, October 21, the Educational Policies Committee (members of the Educational Policies Committee are: Mr. R. J. Dykstra, Executive Board chairman; Rev. J. B. Hulst, Executive Board member; Rev. L. Bossenbroek, Executive Board member; Mr. George Bierma, Central Board member; Rev. B. J. Haan, President of the College; Mr. Douglas Ribbens, Dean of the College; and all full time faculty members) met to discuss the academic aspects of four year program planning. At this meeting Mr. Ribbens outlined a schedule of study necessary to complete the curricular phases of the four year plan. Dates were established for the completion of each step in the planning, with February 1 established as the date for the completion of a four year curriculum report.

On November 2 Dean Ribbens and President Haan visited the Chicago offices of the North Central Association to confer with the Associate Secretary of the Association. The status of Dordt College in this transitional period was discussed. The work that has already been done toward accreditation at the two year level will be of great value in our four year planning, and it will supply much of the information required in North Central Association reports. As Dordt College works for a four year program it can be assured of a close working relationship with the North Central Association. An immediate step in this direction was the appointment of a North Central Association consultant.

On November 3 Dean Ribbens and President Haan visited Dr. Virgil Lagomarcino the consultant appointed by the North Central Association. Dr. Lagomarcino is head of the Department of Education at Iowa State University, Ames. Plans have been made with Dr. Lagomarcino to have him visit with the administration on December 1 and 2. This visit will result in valuable advice on the procedures we should follow in becoming a four year school.

At present a curriculum study committee, composed of Mr. Ribbens, Dr. Zinkand, Mr. Van Til, and Mr. De Boer, is meeting each Thursday afternoon to study the four year curriculum. Each faculty member has prepared a report recommending curricular offerings in his field. These reports will serve as a basis for further committee research and debate which will lead to a curriculum report which is to be submitted to the Educational Policies Committee for consideration and approval.

At the same time the Academic Personnel Committee, the Building Committee, and the Finance Committee are all working on matters which directly and indirectly influence the development of a four year program.

Societies Continue
Valuable Support
Library Benefits

The church societies continue to give important financial aid to the Dordt College library. An appeal has gone out to these societies again to seek help for this year. These appeals have been sent to the ministers or clerks of the consistories and will be presented through them to the responsible society officers. Already several societies have responded to this year's request.

The college library is steadily expanding. Dean Ribbens reports that the number of volumes now totals approximately seven thousand. Plans are to reach the fifteen thousand volume total by 1967. Thinking in terms of a four year college this is urgently needed. If the societies continue to show solid interest in this program the possibility of realizing our goal is good.

Below is presented a tabulation of society gifts since April, 1961.

Classis Minnesota North

Clara City, Ladies Aid	\$ 15.00
Emden, Mission Study Circle	25.00
Fort William, Ont., Canada, Young Ladies Society	10.00
Hancock, Ladies Aid	5.00
Prinsburg, Ladies Aid	25.00

Classis Minnesota South

Chandler, Senior Ladies Aid	10.00
Chandler, Sunshine Guild	42.00
Chandler, Dorcas Society	20.00
Edgerton I	25.00
Edgerton, Bethel, Senior Men's Society	10.00
Mountain Lake, Men's Society	5.00
Volga, Emmanuel Men's Society	16.75

Classis North Central Iowa

Britt, Men's Society	10.00
Hollandale, Helping Hand Society	35.00
Hollandale, Dutch Men's Society	20.00
Kanawha, Wright, Helping Hand Society	10.00
Woden, Ladies Aid	100.00
Woden, Young People's Society	25.00

Classis Orange City

Hawarden, Ladies Aid	5.00
Hospers, Priscilla Ladies Aid	100.00
Ireton, Ladies Aid	15.00
Ireton, Kings Daughters	30.00
Orange City, II	35.00
Sanborn, Fellowship Hour	25.00
Sheldon, Women's Fellowship Hour	25.00
Sioux City, Christian Fellowship Society	10.00

Classis Pella

Leighton, Ruth Circle	25.00
Leighton, Mary of Bethany Society	10.00
Newton, Ladies Bible Hour	10.00
Sully, Ruth Circle	15.00

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Board Sets Date For Spring Drive

The Executive Board has selected the third full week in March, 19 through 23, for the annual spring drive. Early notification of this is made so that this project will not interfere with other local campaigns for funds. School boards and consistories are asked to consider this in making their calendars. Details on the drive will appear later. Plans have been submitted by the building and finance committees and approved by the Executive Board.

This drive has been authorized by the general society of Dordt College (900 present) held October 16 in the Sioux Center Public Auditorium.

Dordt Alumnus Contributes To Air Force Research

The scene is the old Air Force base near Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The time is an evening during the week of November 27 through December 2, 1961. The project is a balloon launch conducted by physicists working under a contract with the United States Air Force. Their purpose is to carry out a launch at night to measure spectral emission.

During 1960 the same group of physicists launched six balloons from White Sands, New Mexico. Each time the launch occurred during the day time. Three times in 1961 the group has carried out day time launches. The Sioux Falls launch is the first night time launch to measure ultra violet emission.

One of the young men concerned about the success of each balloon launch is John Kusters, Jr., a 1960 graduate of Dordt College, and presently a student at Colorado Technical Institute, Denver, Colorado. Kusters has been employed on a part time basis, since November 1, 1960, as a machinist. He has been working in the basement of the Physics Buildings on the campus of the University of Denver, making tape recorders, sun seekers, and data viewers for several physicists who are interested in gathering data for atmospheric research. Each time a balloon is launched, it carries aloft a "payload" of instruments, designed by the University of Denver physicists, and machined by Kusters.

In June, 1961, Kusters expects to graduate from Colorado Technical Institute. He has already been offered a full time position with this Air Force research project, not as a machinist, but as an instrument technician, and for his work he will be utilizing the mathematics skills taught him at Dordt College, and the electronic skills learned at C.T.I.

Kusters, a former resident of Sioux Center, is married to the former Judy De Vries, also of Sioux Center. They have two children, Denise and Michael. They are presently members of the Second Christian Reformed Church, Denver, Colorado.

Attention Seniors

Each year many high school districts sponsor "College days" or "Career days." Dordt College has been invited to attend a number of these to meet 2 or 3 students who have indicated an interest in Dordt College.

Because of the time and the distances involved it becomes impossible to attend these meetings. However, each year each district sponsors a "Dordt Day" to present the College to the parents and prospective students. These meetings are held in the latter part of January and in the early part of February. We hope that all high school seniors will watch future issues of the VOICE and check their church bulletins for further information.

Society Favors Four-Year Plan

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deem feasible, with the understanding that the year following the initiation of the third year college program, the four year program may be inaugurated.

D. That the society authorize the Executive Board to carry on an intensive, house-to-house, campaign next spring, 1962. The aim of this campaign to be a determined effort to raise as much money as possible toward, one, the erection of a new building to cost approximately \$70,000.00, and, two the liquidation of our present debt, with the understanding that the Board will proceed to erect the new building.

E. That the society give its full support to the Financial program established by the Boards, including the Foundation Day Envelope Drive, the Spring Debt-Reduction Offerings, Special Subscriber Plan, and quotas support, to implement the college program in the future.

HOW SOON TO BE IMPLEMENTED?

The supporters of Dordt College, especially the students, constantly ask how soon the four year program will begin. The answer to this question cannot be given until a thorough study on curriculum and finances has been made. It appears presently that the Board will be able to make a pronouncement on this matter the earlier part of Spring. A serious attempt will be made to keep the constituency informed on studies being made. Elsewhere in this issue of THE VOICE appears an article by Dean Ribbens which aims to inform the society members as to the progress being made in certain areas.

Library Benefits . . .

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Classis Sioux Center	
Harrison, Esther Circle	10.00
Holland Center, Ladies Aid	25.00
Hull, North Dakota, Ladies Aid	14.00
Inwood	25.00
Lebanon, Ladies Aid	10.00
New Holland, South Dakota, Harmony Workers Society	27.00
Platte, Priscilla Ladies Aid	10.00
Platte, Excelsior Study Club	10.00
Purewater, Ladies Aid	10.00
Rock Valley I, Valley Gleaners	35.10
Rock Valley I, Junior Men's Society	10.00
Rock Valley I, Martha Circle	10.00
Sioux Center I,	25.00
Sioux Center Bethel	25.00

Dordt Assured of Government Loan

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to bid on the project.

Mr. Boersma added this comment: "The Lord has blessed our efforts so far so that we can now have the assurance that there will be a \$325,000 loan set aside for Dordt College. The Board has requested the service of De Wild, Grent, Reckert, and Stevens, Engineers and Architects, Rock Rapids, Iowa, to draw up definite plans. Much work remains to be done, but we are happy to acquaint all with the results of this project."

(Reprinted from the DORDT DIAMOND, Student Publication of Dordt College, Volume V., November 12, 1961, edition).

Applications Sought For Janitor Position At Dordt

Dordt College is in need of a full time janitor. Those interested in applying are requested to have their application in not later than Monday, December 11. Send applications to the college office in Sioux Center, Iowa. If applicants prefer to apply by telephone call, or a personal visit at the office, this will be appreciated.

The
DORDT
COLLEGE **Voice**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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